

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
STEVE DOYLE

94th DISTRICT

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Rep. Steve Doyle 608-266-0631

REP. DOYLE TO HOST COMMUNITY MEETING ON NURSING HOME PLANNING FOR FAMILIES

MADISON – There is a new death tax in Wisconsin that is specifically targeting farmers, seniors and their families.

The state budget, which was signed into law last year, made several critical changes to the laws which give the state the power to collect money and property from families whose loved ones received Medicaid services when they were alive, including the power to file foreclosure on properties.

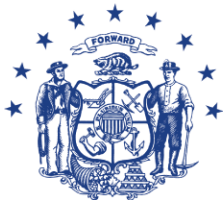
Many across the state are working fervently to ensure that seniors and their families understand what is going on and get the advice they need to prevent such occurrences. Rep. Steve Doyle (D – Onalaska) will be holding a free community meeting to talk about the issue and to have experts on hand to answer any questions.

“The family farm, which is the mainstay of our Wisconsin heritage, cannot survive if we make it impossible for families to pass their life’s work on to the next generation,” said Doyle. “I’ve spoken with attorneys from all across the state who work specifically to help people plan for their retirement and they all say that these changes in the law may force people to take drastic measures such as selling off the farm, their homes or businesses.”

Rep. Steve Doyle will be hosting the community meeting to discuss the new laws in Wisconsin on divestment (giving away assets) affecting Medicaid eligibility for individuals who may need nursing home care, other institutional care, and community based long-term care programs.

“This is a very complicated issue,” said Doyle, “and it is one that might determine whether someone can afford to stay in their home or need to sell their business. Because of the recent changes to the law and the general confusion, I wanted to hold this meeting to give people the answers that they need.”

The meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 15th at 7 pm at the Onalaska Omni Center at 255 Riders Club Rd., Onalaska. Featured speakers will include Attorney Greg Bonney who specializes in Elder Law and Tina Johnson, Elder Benefits Specialist for La Crosse County. Both will be available to answer any questions regarding Medicaid eligibility and divestment.



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“I encourage everyone who can to attend this meeting. The issue of Medicaid Divestment is one that hits home for many of us in Western Wisconsin,” Doyle said. “In these uncertain economic times, it is important to know what you need to do to protect yourself and your family.”

For more information, please contact Rep. Steve Doyle at (608) 266-0631.

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